

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

INFO USMISSION NATO

ADCOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 006671

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, CA

SUBJECT: NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE SHARING

1. EMBASSY PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING TEXT FROM DASD GLITMAN
TO ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER E.P. BLACK.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR PAT: GENERAL CATHEY TELLS ME THAT
GENERAL TROWER HAS ASKED TO POSTPONE THE NEXT MEETING OF
THE NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE SHARING WORKING GROUP,
SCHEDULED FOR OTTAWA ON 12 JANUARY 1977, TO 25 JANUARY,
1977 TO ALLOW YOUR PEOPLE TIME TO PREPARE FOR NATO AEW
NEGOTIATIONS. AS YOU KNOW, OUR DESIRE TO MEET THE TIGHTER
SCHEDULE WAS PROMPTED IN PART BY YOUR CONCERN TO OBTAIN THE
DATA NECESSARY FOR YOUR GOVERNMENT TO MAKE A DECISION IN
THE NATO FORUM ON A NATO E-3A AWACS PROGRAM. I HOPE
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THEREFORE THAT POSTPONEMENT OF THE 12 JANUARY MEETING
WILL NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO MOVE
TOWARD A FAVORABLE DECISION IN NATO ON THE AWACS PROGRAM,
WHICH AS YOU KNOW WE CONSIDER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. IF
THERE IS ANY PROBLEM IN THIS REGARD, I HOPE YOU WILL
RECONSIDER THE POSTPONEMENT.

ON A SEPARATE SUBJECT, I WOULD LIKE TO CLARIFY AN ANSWER

WE GAVE TO A QUESTION ASKED BY MINISTER DANSON DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE PENTAGON. THE MINISTER INQUIRED AS TO THE PERCENTAGE OF AN ARMY DIVISION'S MANPOWER NEEDED OVERSEAS TO MAINTAIN A FULL SET OF PREPOSITIONED EQUIPMENT. OUR RESPONSE OF "LESS THAN 10 PERCENT" SHOULD HAVE BEEN "ABOUT 5 PERCENT", BASED ON U.S. FIGURES. CURRENT U.S. ARMY PRACTICE IS TO MANAGE SUCH EQUIPMENT WITH A PERMANENTLY STATIONED SPECIALIZED MAINTENANCE UNIT, RATHER THAN WITH A FIXED OR ROTATING SEGMENT OF THE PARENT COMBAT ORGANIZATION. THE U.S. CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE PREPOSITIONING OF AT LEAST THE HEAVY AND/OR BULKY ITEMS OF CAN/UK/US UNIT EQUIPMENT IN EUROPE, PROVIDES A HIGHLY COST-EFFECTIVE METHOD OF ENHANCING THE EARLY COMBAT CAPABILITY OF NATO'S IN-PLACE FORCES DURING A PERIOD OF CRISIS OR CONFLICT.

I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR NEXT STEERING GROUP AND TO CONSIDERING THE RESULTS OF OUR AD HOC WORKING GROUP'S EFFORTS. WITH WARM REGARDS AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR, MAYNARD W. GLITMAN
KISSINGER

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